

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-3. (canceled).

4. (currently amended) An ignition coil for an engine comprising:  
a central core assembly including a rod-shaped core, the central core assembly having first and second longitudinal ends defining respective longitudinal end corners of the central core assembly;  
a primary spool and a secondary spool arranged around the outer circumference of the central core assembly;  
a primary coil wound on the primary spool and a secondary coil wound on the secondary spool; and  
an insulating ~~member~~ material filled around the core, wherein at least one of the two longitudinal end corners of the central core assembly is surrounded by a space that is free of said insulating material.

5. (currently amended) The ignition coil of claim 4, further comprising:  
a first buffer member arranged to cover the other of the two longitudinal end corners of the central core assembly; and  
a second buffer member arranged at at least one of the two longitudinal ends of the central core assembly.

6. (original) The ignition coil of claim 5, further comprising:  
a case member enclosing the outer circumference of the central core assembly, wherein the second buffer member provides a sealing between a longitudinal end face of the central core assembly in the space and the case member.

Claims 7-44. (canceled).

45. (new) An ignition coil for an engine comprising:  
a rod-shaped central core;  
magnets disposed on both longitudinal end faces of the central core;  
a spool disposed radially outside the central core;  
a coil wound around the spool; and  
a cylindrical buffer member made of elastic material and disposed between the central core and the spool, the buffer member covering circumferential faces of the central core and the magnets, the buffer member longitudinally extending short of a distal end corner of at least one of the magnets thereby leaving a space around said corner such that the corner is maintained free from contact with other members disposed to cover the corner.

46. (new) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein the space is maintained empty.

47. (new) The ignition coil of claim 45, further comprising:  
a plate-shaped buffer member made of elastic material and disposed on a longitudinal distal end face of said one of the magnets, the plate-shaped buffer member being smaller in diameter than said one of the magnets and defining the space around said distal end corner thereof.

48. (new) The ignition coil of claim 45, further comprising:  
a cap member disposed near said one of the magnets to cover the plate-shaped buffer member and said one of the magnets, the cap member being held away from said distal end corner by the space and in contact with the plate-shaped buffer member and the cylindrical buffer member.